sukhdev pd.

Complaints regarding implementation of MPLADS

*112. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any complaints have been received about non-implementation or inordinate delay in the implementation of projects sanctioned under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Schemes, after release of funds to the authorities concerned; and

(b) if so, steps being taken by Government to monitor the implementation of these schemes to ensure proper appropriation of such funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Whenever a complaint in this regard is received a report is called for and the matter is taken up with the concerned Collector/State Government and necessary instructions are issued. In certain cases, officers of the Department of Programme Implementation also make an on-the-spot enquiry with a view to expediting the implementation of the works. The Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General of India has been requested to arrange for audit of the works taken up under the MPLADS in order to ensure proper appropriation of MPLADS funds.

Financial Viability of SEBs

*113. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in the financial results of the State Electricity Boards in 1995-96, over 1994-95; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken to make SEBs financially viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) In terms of the provisions of sub-section 4 of Section 69 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the accounts of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) are required to be forwarded to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) duly certified by the Audit, within six months of the close of the year to which the accounts relate i.e. 30 September. The accounts for the year 1995-96 have not been received in the Central Electricity Authority so far. The financial position of SEBs for 1995-96 could therefore, be compared with that for 1994-95 only on finalisation of accounts by all the SEBs for 1995-96.

(b) Ministry of Power has been emphasising to the State Governments, the need to improve the performance of SEBs through restructuring and reform, tariff rationalisation, reduction in T&D losses, improvement in Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing plants, Renovation and Modernisation of the Power Plants in a time-bound manner etc.

Use of Good Quality Coal in Power Plants

*114. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been conducted in the past which proved that use of good quality coal in power plants could increase their load factor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that inspite of deep research world over in this respect the country is still banking upon the use of coal with higher ash content in the boilers to produce power; and

(d) the reasons for not using modern ways to increase the plant load factor inspite of huge investments and requirement of more power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES. (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Atleast, three different studies have concluded that the use of good quality coal can increase the PLF of our thermal power stations.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, the PLF of power stations is inter alia dependent on the quality and consistency of the coal fed in the boilers of thermal power stations.

(d) A number of measures to improve the PLF of our thermal power stations are being taken. Consequently, the PLF of our thermal power stations had increased to 63% in 1995-96 from 55. 3% in 1991-92.

Ranchi-Paradeep Pipeline

*115. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to lay a pipeline connecting Ranchi with Paradeep;

(b) whether the tap off facilities under that proposal were to be provided at Rourkela and Bhubaneshwar; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken by the Indian Oil Corporation in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) IOC has submitted a proposal to the Govt. for Ist stage clearance for laying a product pipeline from Paradeep to Ranchi. The other details including tap off facilities etc. of the project will be decided based on Detailed Feasibility Report.

Non-Conventional Energy Generation in Assam and Rajasthan

*116. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of the steps taken/ contemplated by Government to generate non-conventional energy in Assam and Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a wide range of programmes to generate and utilise non-conventional energy such as; the Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP), the Urjagram programme, the setting up of Biogas plants, Improved Chulhas, Biomass Gasification and Briquetting Plants, Solar Thermal, Water Heating, both domestic and industrial, Solar Photovoltaic energy based rural home-lighting, lanterns, water pumps for irrigation and village level power plants, grid connected power from Wind Energy, Small Hydro, Bagasse-based Co-generation and Solar Photovoltaic Energy and electrical power from Urban and Industrial Wastes throughout the country including in the State of Assam and Rajasthan.

The achievements in the States of Assam and Rajasthan upto March, 1996 under these various Non-Conventional Energy Programmes are given in statement.